

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner noted that claims 24-32 are pending in the application; that claim 29 is objected to; and that claims 24-28 and 30-32 are rejected. By this response, claims 24 and 27-28 have been cancelled, claims 25-26, 29, and 30-32 have been amended, and new claims 33-40 have been added. Thus, claims 25-26 and 29-40 are pending in the application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C., §103

Claims 24-26 and 31-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Arends, et al.*, (U.S. Patent No. 4,173,161). Claims 27-28 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Arends, et al.* in view of *Keim* (U.S. Patent No. 4,430,914).

Claims 24 and 27-28 have been cancelled and claims 25-26 and 29-32 have been amended to place amended claim 29 in allowable form, and to place the remaining claims in dependent form from newly independent claim 29. New claims 33-40 are presented herein and are directed to subject matter believed to be allowable based on the indication of allowable subject matter for amended claim 29.

Further to the Examiner's assertion that it would have been an obvious matter of design choice...to provide spacing between the plate and the strips of *Arends* to be about 3.5 times the thickness of the web because Applicant has not disclosed the specific spacing provided as an advantage, Applicant traverses this assertion and points towards

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column 8, lines 55-61 of U.S. Patent No. 6,843,156 (patent case for the present application). More particularly, an advantage is disclosed because there is little or no contact occurring between the second guide strip and a web during a processing operation.

Based on the amendment of the claims and the arguments presented above, claims 25-26 and 29-40 are believed to be allowable of the subject matter of the prior art of record and action to that end is respectfully requested. Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

While claim 29 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, it appears it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 29 has been amended accordingly, as discussed above, to provide an allowable independent claim.

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CONCLUSION

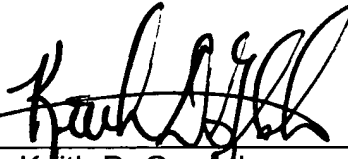
For all the reasons advanced above, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next anticipated action is to be anything other than a Notice of Allowance, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone interview before issuance of any such subsequent action.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _____

5/15/06

By: _____



Keith D. Grzelak
Reg. No. 37,144